

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: M. TAKEDA, et al.

Application No.: New Patent Application

Filed: October 15, 2003

For: VALVE UNIT AND FLUID CONTROL CHIP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

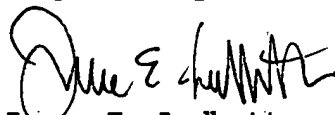
Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. US '872 is discussed in the background section of the application at page 2, line 15 et seq.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: October 15, 2003

JEL/apg
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FORM PTO-1449
(Rev. 4/92)U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

L8612.03104

SERIAL NO.

Unassigned

APPLICANT

M. TAKEDA, et al.

FILING DATE

October 15, 2003

GROUP

Unassigned**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6	2	7	9	8	7	2					
		6	2	7	9	8	7	2	08/2001	Neuhaus			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in compliance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.